BAKEMONOGATARI

11

Glow Balls
Every Vampire
Annihilating
Organization

Headhunter

Dramaturgy

OH!GREAT

Original Story:

NISIOISIN

Original Character
Design: VOFAN

BAKEMONOGATARI

OH!GREAT

ORIGINAL STORY:

NISIOISIN

ORIGINAL CHARACTER
DESIGN: VOFAN

11

MAIN CHARACTERS

Tsubasa Hanekawa

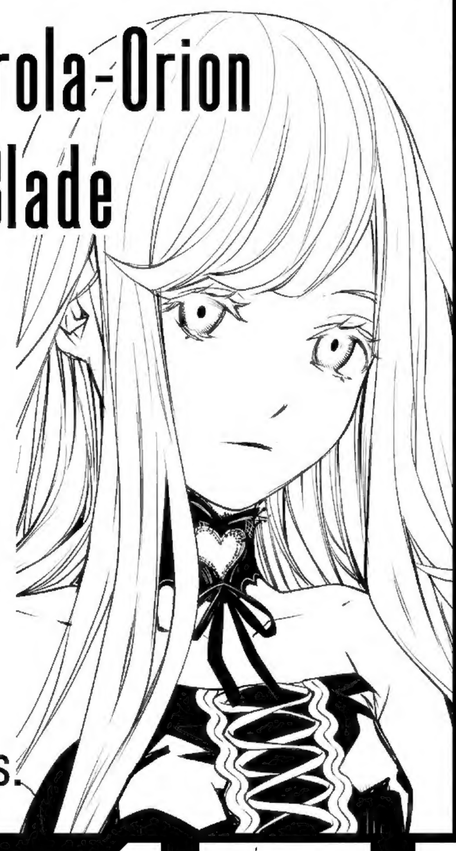
Koyomi's friend who goes to the same school as him. Though an honor student that few honors could sufficiently describe, she goes out of her way to support Koyomi for some reason.

Mèmè Oshino

A self-described expert on aberrations who suddenly appeared before Koyomi one day. He now acts as a go-between for Koyomi and the hunters.

Koyomi Araragi

A boy who became Kiss-Shot's thrall after saving her. To regain his humanity, he must now fight three vampire hunters.



Kiss-Shot Acerola-Orion Heart-Under-Blade

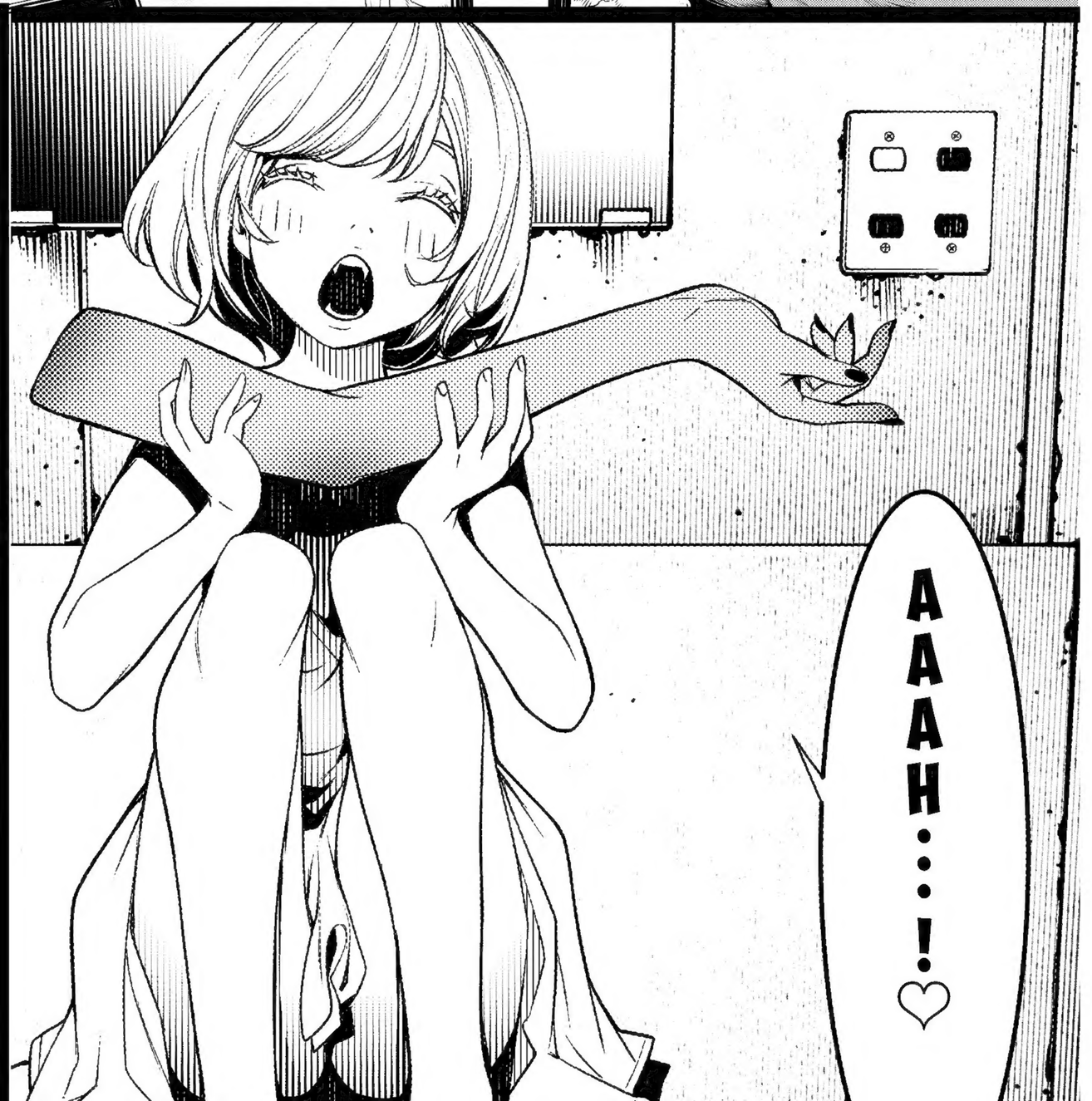
A vampire powerful enough to be called the "king of aberrations" who Koyomi saved from the brink of death. She has regained a tiny bit of her powers.

Episode

A vampire hunter with golden hair and eyes who stole Kiss-Shot's left arm. He carries a gigantic cross around with him.

THE STORY SO FAR

During spring break, Koyomi Araragi saved the vampire Kiss-Shot Acerola-Orion Heart-Under-Blade. He was fully prepared to die for her but instead finds that he has become her vampiric thrall. To become human again, he must now fight three hunters who are after Kiss-Shot. For his first opponent, he took on the vampire Dramaturgy and, by some miracle, came out victorious.



Chapter 0 Koyomi Vamp

BOOK DESIGN VEIA

BAKEMONOGATARI

JOLT

Huh?

Why would she think that?

Your run-in with a vampire, I mean.

So maybe —

It's my fault.

I left out the parts about her panties and the dirty book I bought, of course. Even I'm not that much of an idiot.

That said...

I didn't want to hide anything from my only friend.

April 1.

I told Hanekawa everything— everything I could tell her.

SNOOORE

It's the kind of thing you hear in scary stories—like inadvertently summoning a devil by speaking of it—but I could see that as being an actual thing.

They say rumors have a funny way of coming true—right?

And they say that aberrations find their way to you—through *rumoring*.

Hello. We heard the rumors.

TROD

TROD

TROD

TROD

It's been busy going around and haunting everyone who spreads rumors about me.

I see. That would also explain why I don't have a shadow.

—Oh, that's what she means.

STREETCH

BOING BOING

That the rumor actually precedes the aberration—in other words, rumors produce aberrations.

You can think of it the other way around too, you know?

SPIN

SPIN

BOING BOING BOING

You've heard about things being spoken into existence, right?

SPIN

...once someone says *something's there—it is.*

But...

There isn't actually anything there.

Spread rumors

Embellish-ment

Actual harm

Like a sort of curse.

I get it. Kind of like how malicious thoughts can turn into real actions.

Oh.

And thanks to that, I met a vampire, too.

Huh?

Oh...

Yeah, right.

I guess I'm also a vampire.

Oshino said something similar.

The thing about aberrations is that they're everywhere, and they're nowhere.

That's what he said.

...

Hm?

Like, really? Sounds pretty flimsy, if you ask me...

They might exist to humans who can recognize them, but to those who don't, *they might as well not be there.*

BZZT

SHIVER

I was making this sound like someone else's problem, but...

Wait.

No, hold on.

What about my case...?

What about me...?

A flimsy creature if there ever was one.

Someone whose existence could depend on nothing more than a rumor.

That's exactly who I am.

...really exist here?

Do I...

KRAK
KRAK
KRAK
TWIRL
TWIRL
SWOOSH
SWOOSH
SWOOSH
TWIRL

I do remember it— the time I first met Kiss-Shot.

We made such a commotion then.

My battle with Dramaturgy, too... I know we were at school, but there are people living nearby...

And yet—not a single person appeared— *not even people living in the homes we destroyed.*

If there isn't anyone to recognize me...

then it makes sense.

If I'm no different from a ghost—

...

...go and check...

...I should...

Why were you looking for a vampire, Hanekawa?

Well, enough about rumors.

I'll pretend to wash my hands...

then check the mirror for...

SQUEEK

キュー

ZSSSSHHHH

...didn't contain my reflec-tion.

I knew it... The mirror...

It's not like I was serious about looking for one.

Huh?

...Oh.

Araragi ?

Maybe it's time to change your clothes?

NO GOOD. NO FUTURE.

That's right.

NO GOOD. NO FUTURE.

I can't even get my hands on daily necessities, so I'd asked Hanekawa to go buy them for me.

Can you not borrow clothes from that Mister Oshino guy?

I've been wearing these clothes ever since the day this all started.

He only owns Hawaiian shirts.

What's wrong with that?

They're ... just no.

STAAAAAAAAAAAARE
TKKA TKKA TKKA TKKA TKKA TKKA TKKA

It feels like she... doesn't intend on going anywhere...

If anything, her eyes are like an 8-millimeter video camera that's fixed on me...

LAND WILD LAND WILD

Right... Underwear, too.

Hurk.

...

THP

Thanks, Hanekawa.

Then I'll get straight to—

ZSSHT

STRIP

Strip.

Buying this must have been embarrassing for her... So it'd be rude for me to refuse now.

I'll be a man about it. I'll go about it like I've come to a public bathhouse, and I'll—

Bath

It's okay.

You're ...

...right here.

Look.

I see all of you.

...

Sorry.

Oh...

...Yeah.

C-Can I...put my clothes on now...?

FSST

...

STAAARE

TKKA TKKA TKKA

Ooh!

TWITCH

Um!

...Hane-kawa!!

TREMBLE

You don't feel different from any other man.

...But something about you suddenly seems a lot stronger, I guess...

Our powers of healing work to keep our bodies in optimal condition.

Of course thy build has changed.

You said I don't feel "different from any other man" ...

But have you touched other men's bodies?

HA HA

Anyway, Hane-kawa...

Guh.

ROLL

Huh?

Hahaha!

Yeah, I guess so.

Aha ha!

NO, NO!

NEVER!

YOU'RE RIGHT. I WAS SPEAKING FROM WHAT I IMAGINED IT FEELS LIKE. I SHOULDN'T DO THAT.

HUH?!

RENT-A-HITMAN

HIZAKI

Even so, IPPO Approaches

5

IPPO Approaches

I think that you're kind of going about it in the wrong way, Araragi.

...Manga?

In your current state, you can probably move in a way that ignores the laws of physics, right?

You're limiting your own strength for no good reason.

Fighting using aikido or baseball or anything of the sort seems like it would only end up being a negative.

You mean... like a character from these school-based fighting manga...?

There's a fantasy novel that I'd personally recommend, but I thought manga might be the most effective solution.

Go and use this bookstore gift card to buy more volumes of whichever one you like.

SST

HOLD ON, THIS IS BEYOND BEING PREPARED!

Hm? Would you have preferred cash?

NO! I'M GRATEFUL— SUPER GRATEFUL! IT'S JUST...

Thanks. Really.

I owe you one.

I'll pay you back as soon as this is all over.

It's fine. I've been saving my New Year's gift money since I was little.

DON'T USE THAT KIND OF MONEY ON ME!!

Cash I can reimburse, but not memories!!

We help each other out in times of need, right? Oh, should I clean this place up?

NO, IT'S FINE! REALLY! PLEASE, JUST SIT DOWN!

Hm?

Zentai Max

What's this book?

Zentai Max

A second skin encasing your body!

An amateur girl's tale of awakening: Haruko's story

An amateur girl's extreme sexuality: Yuki's story

The beautiful sister: Ami Namu

?!

?!!?!

HURK

My porno mag...?!

What's it doing here?!

Wha...?! That's...

THAT BOOK WAS INSIDE THE BAG THOU HADST SO PRECIOUSLY CLUNG TO.

HWUP

(MUMBLE MUMBLE) I HAD FORGOTTEN TO TELL THEE.

THOU ART WEL-COME.

I MADE SURE TO COLLECT IT SO I COULD RETURN IT TO THEE.

People like you deserve to be...!

Y—

You!

GRRRRRIT

GUH.

THMP

Huh...

The day you turned into a vampire... was the day you saw my panties, right?

It does feel like amputating a limb by cutting my body in two, but whatever.

No... That book is a decoy!!

It'll probably make Hanekawa think that I'm a super-perverted freak, but I can still hide my true intentions...

BOOM

So...

All the Glasses-Wearers

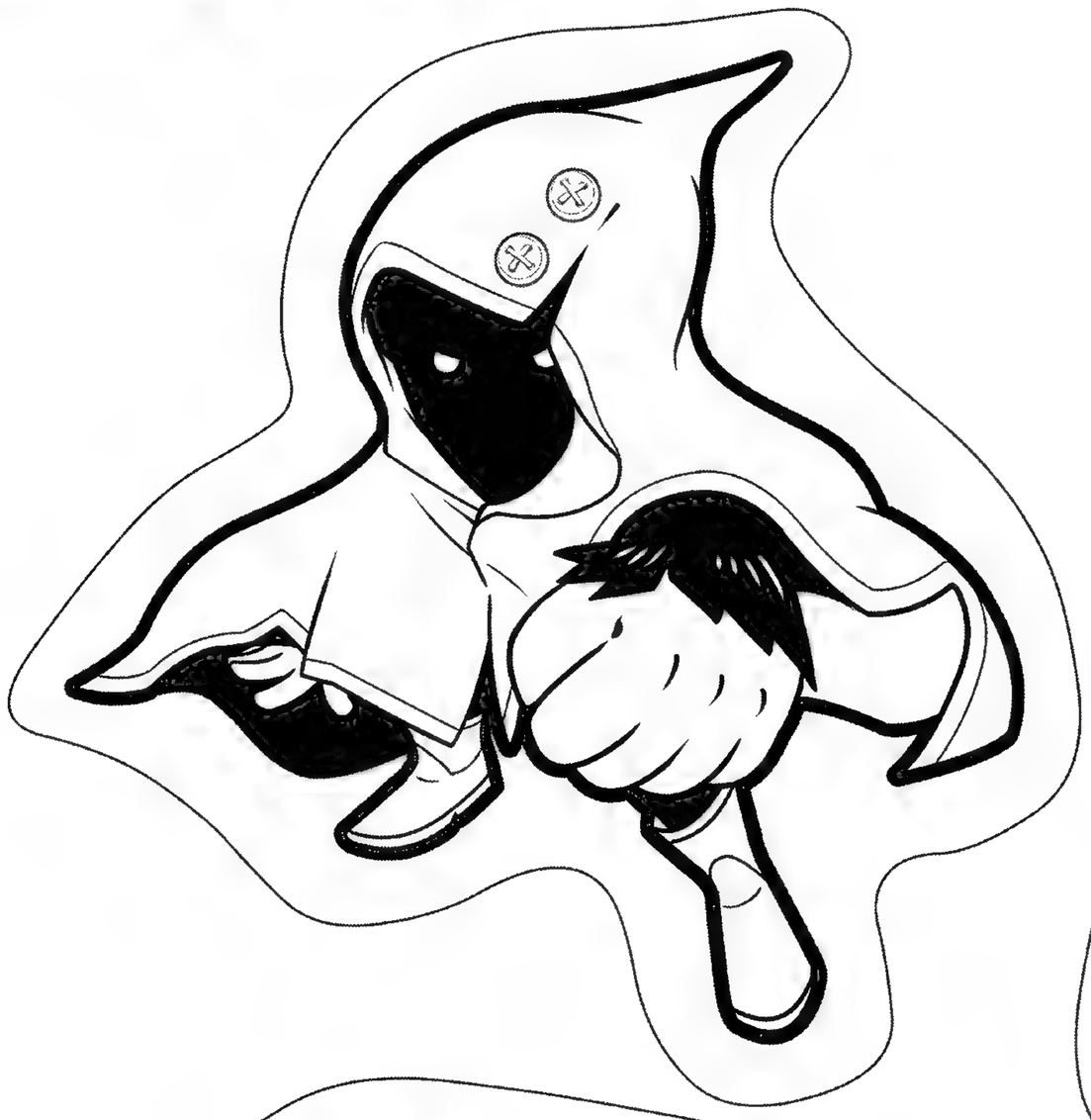
Class President Special

her full-body tights, and now she's showing off her underwear after school.

What's this?

KRAAAASH

BAKEMONOGATARI



He's late ...

...Er, wait ...

Hm ?

PAT

PAT

Huh?

SCROUNGE

SCROUNGE

No ordinary person would have the mental fortitude to withstand having the person who inspired the purchase of a dirty mag seeing that very magazine.

I feel like I'd upped my intensity as a human more than enough before coming here, though.

This isn't good... I'm not feeling as calm as I thought I would.

I haven't worn my wristwatch since becoming a vampire, and I forgot my phone, too.

THONK

Gotta love it.

!!

I'll make a clean kill—no permanent damage.

SKREEK

...Half of that was dumb luck.

And it felt like he was going pretty easy on me so I'd join him...

...

...going and turning the tables on Dramaturgy when he tried to hunt you?

Man... Talk about funny. A kid like you...

SPURT

Hm?

...

AAH!!

BHAAAAH!!

AAGH!

SPLURRT

—!!

TWITCH

You seem awful timid.

Especially considering you're the almighty thrall of Heart-Under-Blade.

I've hunted my fair share of formerly human vampires, but they were all cockier than you are, y'know?

All of them were drunk off their own sense of omnipotence, acting like they were gonna rule the world.

...This is gonna be annoying ...

... Did he teleport ...?!

Well, let's have some fun. This is just a game, after all.

SST

...

It might be that the only thing I could beat you in is rock-paper-scissors...

Hah.

That so?

Why would I act cocky? I'm barely different from a regular human ...

SHHK

SST

HAA HAA HAA HAA

HAA

YOU'RE EVEN DUMBER THAN A ROCK!!! SO YOU CAN'T EVEN BEAT ME IN ROCK-PAPER-SCISSORS!!!

VICTORY!!!

One look at you was all it took for me to tell.

This doesn't have anything to do with you being a thrall... You're *fundamentally inferior to me as a living being.*

AWW YEAH! I win! ♥ Peace! ♥

Time for you to learn, kid.

My opponent in my second duel— Episode.

A man with eyes as sharp as a sword and filled with hatred.

People like Oshino make me uncomfortable...

But people like you— I hate.

We've all got *our* limits.

A few hours earlier.

Episode is a half-vam-pire.

A half-vam-pire ...!

Even I could figure out what that meant.

In other words, he was born to one human and one vampire—right?

Isn't there anything more... specific you can tell me?

Well.

—Yeah, you just told me that earlier.

I forgot.

TEP

TEP

TEP

?!!

STAB

Hm.

FWOOMP

No, wait. It was over here.

SQWITCH

SQRITCH

SQRITTCH

GRRK

SPLAT

TWITCH

TWITCH

SPLURCH

One moment. I'll pull something out of my memories in no time.

I've just been so forgetful ever since I took this form... Jetlag, perhaps?

NO NO NO NO NO NO NO NO NO NO

What ...?

I RE-MEM-BER!!!

SHINE

SPLOOSH

AH! ♡

De-tests them?

The fellow detests vampires.

GLOOMY

DUMMY

GUILLOTINE CUTTER

EPISODE

KLONK

BA-KRAK

GSSHT

TOSS

...it is often the case that halves hate vampires.

Though it seems he has respect for Dramaturgy ...

DUMMY

EPISODE

Why's that?

Isn't one-half of him vampire?

Killed ...?

To protect the purity of vampire bloodlines or some-thing...?

Nay.

Half-vampires are not accepted into the world of vampires.

Normally, they are killed on the spot if discovered.

As one might say in this country ...

Ah, yes.

"The nail that sticks out gets hammered down"— That is what this is.

Halves can even be active while we sleep during the day.

They also cast shadows.

Fine in the light of day.

Quick to mature, too.

Yet they have no weaknesses because of that.

They're half-hearted as vampires.

DEMON

He's now on a rampage with an unusual level of hatred for vampires.

DEMON

HUMAN

I imagine he was raised in a way...that we are better off not knowing.

Episode stands out even among other halves.

HUMAN

...

That's ...

THP

Unlike the other two—he continues to hunt out of personal desire.

Doesn't that just mean he's being targeted because he's the strongest?

Why not just fight him normally?

1083 ft 558 ft

...

Thank you for putting far too much stock in me.

Kiss-Shot, if he *does* have weaknesses —isn't this going to be pretty hard?

How am I supposed to fight someone like that?

Hmmm?

Good evening, Araragi.

Your supplies for the day.

Oh, or maybe it's "good morning" for you?

Hane-kawa!

N/G
NO GOOD, NO FUTURE.

Even So, IPPO 36 Approaches

The new volume!

Ooh, here it is!

Oh, thanks. I'll give it to you later.

Where's your laundry for today? You can include your underwear. I don't mind.

BAM

AKEN!

No matter what kind of unbelievable technique his powerful enemies hit him with, he just closes the distance and knocks them out!

MAN-DRIL CRUSH!

It's about a protagonist who's only good at punching, climbing his way up in a school teeming with super-powered kids.

!!

BA-KRAK

ZWOOSH

This series is so much fun.

HHH SHIT!

I'M BACK.

KEH HEH

WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE?!

WHA...

You know a police officer is just going to arrest you if you're carrying something like that around, right?

...

To be honest, this fighting style—

is really teaching me a lot.

I tried swinging a metal bat around, but I bent it at the base.

First off, no weapon can withstand my ridiculous strength.

Hanekawa said I shouldn't force myself to use a particular weapon.

I found myself in agreement with Hanekawa.

By the way, this scarf...

You brought it because you were concerned about the wound on my neck, right?

If anything, I'd probably leave myself wide open and actually make my situation worse—

...it probably wouldn't work against a professional.

Police problems aside... if an amateur like me tried to use a weapon ...

I'LL CLEAN YOUR ROOM AND WAIT FOR YOU THERE!

DO YOUR BEST!

Yeaah!

BLOOP

But it turns out she was going to do some cleaning.

—Or so I thought ...

She used packing tape to defend against me.

BOW

SST

You really are being considerate about every last thing. I could spend my whole life trying to pay you—

A-ha-ha!

I'm just kidding!

... It's not like I was trying to get a glimpse...

?!!

SST

BOW

SST

back.

It's hard to deal with the way he's being weirdly dramatic about everything...

Everything he does feels so unstable, or like it's somehow off...

Still... There's something about this guy...

In that case ...

Victory comes to whomever strikes first.

Against opponents like this, you can't let them take control of the pace.

Huh?

Alrighty, then.

Let's decide on the rules of this game.

Kiss-Shot's left arm!!

It'll be ready, set, and go.

Get there first, and I'll give it to you just like that.

BAKEMONOGATARI

Kiss-Shot's ...

...left arm!!

Hah.

I don't tell lies.

You get there first, and it's yours.

He's so confident ...

...

—No, this is a *trap*... probably.

Taking him up on this is dangerous.

Not to mention that I've been letting him dictate the pace of the conversation this whole time.

The way he seemed to intentionally show off his abilities just now was foreshadowing.

I might as well try asking him.

Not that I expect to get a proper answer.

But ...

Why'd you bring that arm?

I don't think that was part of the deal.

But ...

Hah.

I'm not like the other two, dumb-ass.

Hunting vampires is my hobby.

How's it supposed to be fun if there's not a little thrill involved?

Fine with me.

A hobby ?!

Well ...

I guess that is a reasonable answer, given his background.

We start the moment this guy hits the ground.

UGH ...

Let's follow tradition here.

Now then...

LICK

LICK

164 yards ...?

PING

From here to the arm is about—

CHING

Eh?

One more proposal from me, then.

TILT

スカッ

SHHK

THWAP

I START OFF BY KICKING YOUR ASS, AND THEN WALTZ OVER TO GO GRAB THAT A—

BOOM

Uh.

It really, really hurts ...

...to miss a sucker punch like that.

Sounds fine.

THWAPP

AOMURA'S PATENTED LOOK-AWAY PUNCH, LEARNED FROM THE MAN HIMSELF!

...WELL, FROM THE MANGA.

Oh.

Hm?

That was clo se

Whoa there.

?!!

BWOO

OOF

ZSSHH

SHHT

HSOOOMA

You easily outclass me in terms of raw ability.

I don't intend to fight a close-range battle.

What... just hap-pened?

He turned into mist...?

Doesn't the same go for you? What can you do from all the way over there?

I CAN DO THIS !!

TOSS

SGRRRK

RIP

?!!

WHOA!

My weapon now!

—And wait, is this guy stupid or something?!

I figured he'd swing it like a broad ax or something...

I didn't think he'd just toss it at me like that.

Th... That one caught me completely by surprise ...

Scared the crap outta me...

KRAKKL

That's my first time ever seeing a vampire go over and grab a cross himself!

Haa-aah! Is this kid an idiot or what?!

So Episode's only fine because he's a half-vampire.

Crosses are the go-to item when it comes to fighting demons!

...!

Oh...

SIZZZZZ

He'd really been carrying that thing like it was nothing—so it never even crossed my mind.

If I stay here, he might approach me so he can retrieve this cross of his.

—But this is an opportunity.

My guess—is that if I just ran full speed toward Kiss-Shot's arm,

his plan was to toss this cross at me from behind...

...

Hm?

Hm?

ZZT

ズ

TAP

ドン

...then of course, he's carrying more than one around!!

If he's using a throwing weapon...

Now that I think about it.

—No.

This shouldn't have required any thought.

Oh no!

I've let him completely dictate the pace here...!

FWOOSH

BOOM

BOOM

BOOM

BOOM

—Hey.

You'd better stay within the area those lights are shining on.

—Re-member what I said?

We've all got *our* limits.

!!!

JSSHT

FIZZZ

SIZZLE

SIZZLE

DRIBBLE

Hrgh ...?!

Hyaa-aagh!!

HISSSS

You got lucky there, man! If you took off at full speed after that arm...

...you'd already be in pieces, and it'd be game over!

They're strung up around the entire area under the lights!

Wires soaked in holy water!

I know what that face means. You wanna know when I set this all up, don't you?

I bet you think I used my tele-portation abilities.

That I strung it all up with my super-speed...

Hah!

Haah Haah

...

...

Gbrrf!

I did it this afternoon.

While I was dozing off in the abandoned cram school this afternoon...

Just how stupid and naïve I was.

Those words— were all I needed. I finally understood now.

...he was here at my school, empty because of spring break,

hard at work, going all around to set up traps.

He was busy *preparing for battle.*

KA-CHIK

THD

?

KA-CHIK KA-CHIK

But this meant I'd lost my homefield advantage...

In other words, the biggest advantage that Oshino had arranged for me.

Th—

This *is...*

my *school— you know...*

SKREEE

VRRRR

?!

THAT REEKS !!

HA-HAA

KLAP KLAP KLAP KLAP KLAP KLAP

Hooray! My remote-controlled garlic plan worked perfectly!

ZSSSH

VRRR

BAKEMONOGATARI

A garlic siege...

...drone strike!!!

SGRRRR

Agh.

He—

He even set something like this up?!

VRRR

VRRR

ひゃっ HEE

ひゃっ HEE

ひゃっ HEE

Gotta love it.

Like I've been hit by high-powered pepper spray...

Ultimate PEPPER SPRAY

Wt. 3/4 oz. (15g) Assembled in USA

CHEMICAL, INC.

Almost like—yes, I know.

!!

Th-This isn't just a matter of it smelling bad...

It feels like this stench is seeping into my bones...!!

...

Am I wrong? You use weapons— *to amplify your power when you lack it.*

There's no need for you to have weapons or tools at the ready in the first place, Araragi.

Oh?

ZAKK

...she gave me that piece of advice.

Yes... That's right.

After Hanekawa saw the fight I had with Dramaturgy ...

Oh.

Over there.

That might be a good example.

Humans don't bother using a tool to peel a tangerine, right?

In other words, the essence of strength is...

That seems right, doesn't it?

The essence of an airplane is its "wings."

SCREEE

An air-plane ...?

But it's not, she said.

And that's why they use the tools known as wings— is what she said.

Airplanes *lack the thrust they need*—they lack the power they need.

With enough power ...

a simple scarf can become a powerful whip.

With enough power ...

...an airplane could fly in the sky, even without wings.

...

...

Hah.

...But the essence of their strength—must be *this.*

I'd never be able to think about these things while fighting with brains like mine.

Weak to sunlight, crosses, holy water, and garlic—

On the surface, vampires seem to have nothing but weaknesses.

DASH

Oh.

?!

THWAP

"Take one step forward and you'll create a path."

So, IPPO Approaches

It's like the protagonist of that manga said.

THKK

—

?!

Ah!

Horseshoe Mine

of Judgment

Darkness was upon the face of the deep.

God divided the light from the darkness.

BOOM

THAT ONE'S A DEEP CUT, RIGHT?!

HA HAA♥

GOTTA LOVE IT!!

DID YA KNOW VAMPIRES HAVE A WEAKNESS TO HORSE-SHOES?

HM?

BAM

TWIRL TWIRL TWIRL

Agh!

ZSSHT

WHOOSH

WHOOSH

Cross Bar-rage!

Followed by...

...

?!

Ngh!

BOOF

...a blindside!!!

CHAKK
CHAKK

CHAKK
CHAKK

"Devil's Talons"!!!

Quin-tuple Cross...

THWAK

What's going on here...?

THWAK

Dam-mit...!! I don't under-stand!

—!!!

Again ...?!

Why is this guy...

...yelling out the name of every single move he does...?!

He's even using a language I understand instead of his native tongue...

and I can predict what kind of attack it'll be because they're described by their names.

I'm able to avoid all of his attacks because of the time he wastes screaming,

Like the wires covering the perimeter of this field, for example.

Every-thing he does is calculat-ed.

he's used my strong vision against me.

But by shining those lights on us,

I should have no trouble spotting them.

Normally, given a vampire's vision,

all traps he's designed using his close familiarity with vampire weaknesses ...

there are all the traps he's laid every-where—

On top of that,

Darkness was upon the face of the deep; and the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. And God said, Let there be light: and there was light. And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness.

That brightness makes dark areas look *even darker* to me—blinding me to the wires.

Those lights are *too bright* for my eyes.

Light

Dark

Contrast

CHAKK CHAKK

...he shouldn't be proudly telling me about everything he's doing...

HA-HAA

KLAP KLAP KLAP KLAP KLAP

In that case...

Is he trying to gain the initiative by showing he could end the likes of me whenever he wants?

DOO

Is that it?

Does he not feel pressured?

Hmm...

To be honest with you, Araragi.

—No.

But that reminds me...

At the station.

I...

...actually spoke to Mister Episode once before.

So I don't know if this information would help you at all, but...

...Well, I only got a brief impression from him.

Um...

Huh ...?

Did you not notice him? Someone who stands out that much?

You also happened to cross paths with him once before, right?

He seemed to be someone— who's not very relaxed at all.

Like he's on edge, I guess?

If I were to combine that with what you heard from Miss Heart-Under-Blade...

it felt to me like he was far younger than he looks.

He might act like he's easygoing—but I guess on what you could call the flip side of that...

It probably has something to do with his upbringing as a half-vampire.

Similar to me, maybe.

Like he's always standing on his toes to look older...

It's the opposite of you, Araragi.

Episode's a typical example of someone who needs wings to fly because they don't have the strength otherwise.

Haha.

...

I said I want to help... but I just keeping telling you one useless thing after the next.

Huh...? Oh, no...

Oh.

Sorry.

It's strange. Whenever I'm talking to you...

I just...

...

Sor-ry.

—That's right.

It's just like Hane-kawa said.

You'd better not get obliterated because you don't get out of the way in time.

I can't afford to kill you here, okay?

There's this—feeling I've had since the start.

Some-thing's off about him.

Young-er...

...than he looks ...?

Don't get hit...!

...like my little sisters.

That's it.

He's ...

GLIM-MER

GLIM-MER

He's exactly like—

my little sis-ters.

The way they amused them-selves when we were kids by pulling stupid pranks and messing around with me.

BAKEMONOGATARI

CHRRRK

CHRRRK

SHRRSH

SHRRSH

MREEEEEN

MREEN

MREEN

MREEN

FULL BLAST

BLOR-RGH!

SQUEAK SQUEAK

SPLOOSH

SPIN

SPIN

SPIN

HEH HEH

ZSH

ZSH

ZSH

ZSH

THP

THP

THP

THP

THP

...Oh.

BLEEEGH

BLEEEGH

BLEEEGH

A110 SPLAT

A110 SPLAT

A100 SPLAT

A110 SPLAT

THWAP

BOOM

That's what this is.

Hurry up and get down here already.

No way to dodge when you're in the air, you know.

Got-ta love it.

...Episode is.

That's what...

Awfully kind of you.

That's what it is.

The way they want to brag more about *the trap itself* than catching any prey with it.

The way that a child will out and tell you about a trap they've set.

ZAKK

Hold on.

You haven't forgot-ten, have you?

It's nothing but some set dressing meant to make the duel more exciting.

Whoever reaches Heart-Under-Blade's left arm first wins—but...

This duel is decided by that thing over there.

I'm just getting a kick out of toying with you, that's all.

Didn't Kiss-Shot say something about this?

Oh, wait...

...!

...Or something like that.

Halves are quick to mature.

It was probably around the time they were starting grade school...

How old were my sisters when they were like *that*?

...practically feels like I'm entertaining a six-year-old during playtime.

...You know, fighting you...

I'll try baiting him into telling me.

Huh ?

...Hm?

What ?

He's totally shaken up!!

KLATTER
KLATTER
KLATTER
KLATTER
KLATTER
THOK
THOK

Seriously...? I guess it's true.

It seems like his actual age is on the fairly young side, but...

He can't even speak right.

What kind of nonsense are you owing gong about.

Whenever I'm in trouble, I just need to recall my conversations with Hanekawa!

C'mon, flash-back...!

BTT

Do

Right!

Hane-kawa!

AH!

So what if I figured that out— what good does it do me?

If anything, it's made it a little harder to fight him. Haven't I just put myself at a psychological disadvanta—

What about it, Araragi?

Hm?

So, about what we were talking about...

Hane-kawa.

We were talking about upbringings, but I was hoping you could tell me more about your—

JOLT

ヒッ

Oh!

Y-Yeah... You're right!

It might come in handy somehow!

Your thoughts on Episode's! You said Episode's upbringing was important here, right?

Y'know!

...

...?!!

Ah, er—

Oh... That.

It comes out to 22 days, right?

The one where he asked you how many days it would take for civilization to go extinct if one vampire turned two people into vampires each day.

- On day 2, 1 vampire creates 2, giving you $a_2 = 1 + 1 * 2 = 3$

- On day 3, 3 vampires each create 2 vampires, giving you $a_3 = 3 + 3 * 2 = 9$

Expressed as a formula, the number of individuals on day $n + 1$ is a_{n+1} = (the number of vampires on the previous day) + (the number of vampires on the previous day) * 2 = 3 * (the number of vampires on the previous day) = $3 * a_n$

$a_1 = 1$, so a_n becomes a geometric sequence where the first term is 1 and the ratio is 3, meaning $a_n = 1 * 3^{n-1} = 3^{n-1}$

If we were to

$a_{21} = 3^{20}$

and

3^{32} is around 4.3 billion, so...

hours...

destroyed if that were true?

About your conversation with that Mister Oshino fellow.

Do you remember what you told me earlier?

If one vampire turned two humans into vampires a day...

If we say n is the number of days, that'd be $1+2^n$=the global population.

Well...

Starvation

Escape

Exhaustion

Cannibalism

—Yes...but I think it'd be a little longer when you take reality into consideration.

The spread rate would have to drop because the system can't maintain its internal pressure.

And that would mean you'd see vampires dying of starvation or resorting to cannibalism.

At that pace, you'd run out of humans around you in no time. You might also have some humans who run off far away...

SUN
18
12
06
W
Live
E

If we were to simplify this by saying he's active for twice as long as a vampire, let's say he could kill four humans or vampires a day—as an assumption.

Meanwhile, Episode is a half-vampire, which means he's not subject to limitations as far as being active during the day.

...?

Huh...

Do you think a formula like that would work? Is everything correct so far?

So we'll put together a formula using
a_n = The population of humans on day n
b_n = The total number of vampires on day n
c_n = The total number of half-vampires on day n.

And we'll say that
the probability of encounter = the probability of being attacked.

Next, we'll make variables for each of the cases where
(The number of one species) / (The total population on Earth)

The probability of a vampire or a half-vampire attacking a human:
$p_n = (a_n) / (a_n + b_n + c_n)$

The probability of a vampire or a half-vampire attacking a vampire:
$q_n = (b_n) / (a_n + b_n + c_n)$

The probability of a vampire or a half-vampire attacking a half-vampire:
$r_n = (c_n) / (a_n + b_n + c_n)$

*1 = p + q + r (all three add up to a 100% probability)
The rate of human birth = S * a_n
The rate of half-vampire births = f * a_n
The number of dead vampires = α_n
The number of dead half-vampires = β_n

Good.

Yeah... ... ...

Totally.

...

...

...

KLANG
カン
KLANG
カン
KLANG
カン
KLANG
カン

I think it'd be hard to come up with a precise formula, of course.

You have the probability of half-vampires being born, the speed at which humans are born around the world, the probability of victory when a vampire and a half-vampire fight...

Not that we could remove chaotic elements from the formula, according to Heisenberg's uncertainty principle...

Still, I do think a recursive formula would look something like this.

Probability of a vampire attacking a vampire * Maximum # of times a day vampires and half-vampires suck blood = # of deaths

$$g_n\{2(\delta_n-\alpha_n)+4(c_n-\beta_n)\}=\alpha_n$$

Attacks 2 people a day; Total # of vampires that day; Attacks 4 people a day; # of half-vampires that day

I guess the half-vampire version would look like this.

$$r_n\{2(\delta_n-\alpha_n)+4(c_n-\beta_n)\}=\beta_n$$

Next, if we were to make a formula out of the # of increases to each of the three species over the course of one day on a given day n:

Humans would be $a_{n+1}-a_n$

$$=Sa_n-p_n\{2(\delta_n-\alpha_n)+4(c_n-\beta_n)\}$$

$S a_n$: # of humans born; p_n: Probability of humans being attacked; $4(c_n-\beta_n)$: Maximum # of times a day vampires and half-vampires suck blood

Vampires would be $b_{n-1}-b_n$

$$=p_n\{2(\delta_n-\alpha_n)+4(c_n-\beta_n)\}-\alpha_n$$

$2(\delta_n-\alpha_n)$: # of humans who become vampires; α_n: # of dead vampires

Halves would be $C_{n+1}-C_n=fa_n-\beta_n$

fa_n: # of half-vampires born; β_n: # of dead half-vampires

—What do you think?

Hoo-ray!

I wasn't actually that confident about it.

It's so reassuring to have someone good at math with me!

Yeah!

Sounds great to me!

I think it goes without saying that I didn't understand her formula.

But I didn't even understand why Hanekawa brought up this topic in the first place.

...In other words,

half-vampires have an advantage in all kinds of ways...

So, in a sense, they're like natural predators to vampires.

I wonder if he has any friends to play with...

It would be tough...

...I could figure out that much.

They're too dangerous for vampires to simply ignore.

I guess Kiss-Shot said the same thing, didn't she.

Natural enemies, huh...

Hmm...

That's something I shouldn't have remembered...

It kind of feels like I've only made it harder for me to fight him...

...That's why...

...he's playing with me like this now...

In other words—it's *because* he doesn't have any friends...

Ha haa ...

I'm starting to get bored... I think I'll end this nice and quick with my ultimate secret technique.

Heh!

SWOOP

I can barely stand this. Sheesh...

Egh ...

Ugh, man...

ZWOOSH

He's really starting to make me cringe in more ways than one.

...

...

Is he doing this on purpose?

From the Highest Heavens...

Holy Cross Bombardment!!!!

...They all came together...

Wha ...?

...to become a massiv—

GA-SHOCK

—NO, THEY HAVEN'T !!!

You just got smaller ?!

Heh.

SSSST

TAP

YAAAY

...

Can I just go home now...?

WEE

C'MON, C'MON!

Haah!

Haah!

YAY

BAKEMONOGATARI

YAY

?

WEE

YAY

OMMMM

WA-HOO

KRAK

...

AAAHH!

THP

THP

THP

THP

THP

THP

SIGHwooo...

All right.

YEP!

Okay, clones! Everyone in their places?!

LET'S GET START-ED!

...Um...

What was that again...?

Bom-bard-ment...?

Something about a cross... bombard-ment...?

Hm? —Hold on...the name of the move he said just now...

...

Places...?

—Oh!!

Now...I get it!!

Hold on a...

BA-BA-BOOF

Sec!

...BOM-
BARD-
MENT,
AS IN...

B—

—Ah.

LIKE IT'S GYM CLASS ?!

DODGE-
BALL
...!!!

...am I understanding Episode's plan here...

All this time, and only now...

It took me *this long.*

What a fool I am.

THBP

This was a setup.

It was all to arrange things... to be in the perfect place.

If this...

...really is his trump card—

had he used it out of nowhere at the very start...

I...

Tch.

...doubt I would have been surrounded by him this easily.

It must've been the way Episode wanted to fight, too...

That would be my only chance of winning.

Hide behind cover and launch a surprise attack...

What would I do if I were a six-year-old child who needed to fight a superpowered adult...?!

What would I do—

I should've taken things more seriously.

FHHST

FHHST

FHHST

...got rid of that cover.

But Oshino...

...putting him at an over-whelming disadvan-tage.

ドドド

He got into my head with that.

...confused me and clouded my judgment—causing me to bring my guard down...

...laid a bunch of traps...

He deceived me with his theatrics...

...and hid his true form.

He seemed to be someone— who's not very relaxed at all.

Hane-kawa ...

...clearly told me this.

She told me what kind of person Episode is.

She'd told me everything I needed to know.

Vampires would be $b_{n-1} - b_n$
$= p_n\{2(c_n - \alpha_n) + 4(c_n - \beta_n)\} - \alpha_n$
↓ # of humans who become vampires
↓ # of dead vampires

Halves would be $c_{n+1} - c_n = fa_n - \beta_n$
↓ # of half-vampires born
↓ # of dead half-vampires

...is *precisely why* I needed to be on the highest alert possible.

The fact that he's a six-year-old kid...

For my part—

He's a natural enemy...

...to vampires...!!!

Did I really understand what that meant?!

And he survived to become a six-year-old.

...had every vampire around coming to kill him...

This kid...

I've been... disarmed.

I've been...

He'd put together a strategy this finely detailed, and yet...

The gap in experience here...makes things hopeless for me. He'd turn into mist to dodge my physical attacks.

FSSHT

FSSHT

ZSSHH

...was me.

...the one playing around here...

Haah!

Haah!

Haah!

Haah!

Haah!

Hn-
nzh!

He was the one who was *actually* fighting.

TODDLE

TODDLE

Bfft!

PLOK

And I'm... out of time ...

Pathetic... When I'm down to my last shot, too... Dammit.

There's nothing dangerous in here... It's just a block injection—an anesthetic.

THWAP

Unlike monsters like you, my healing abilities aren't the greatest...

I never imagined you'd actually be able to break the bones in my left leg with a scrap of cloth like that...

—Ugh!

But don't worry.

I'll make a clean kill—no permanent damage.

...!

I guess you could surrender, too.

But even if you do, I'll just come to slaughter you tomorrow.

—

It's...

Because there's nothing a vampire can do about being weak to crosses.

I'll kill you the exact same way I'm about to today.

GSST

GSST

I won't care if you think I'm a one-trick pony or that I'm being cliché.

...his next attack...

I won't be able to dodge...

My eyes, too...

My body... won't move...

It's over for me.

I'm going to lo...

ARA-
RAGI-
!!!!!

...that I'm even halluci-nating her now.

I relied on Hanekawa's words so much...

What.

—?!

Oh, no.

HE TURNS INTO MIST, SO—

YOU CAN'T GIVE UP YET!!

HE—

GKKT

Gotta love it.

PTT

Two days ago.

Does it still hurt, Episode ?

I wouldn't be doing this if it didn't... dammit.

Do you remember that girl...? The one we met at the station?

...Hey, Guillotine Cutter.

I just thought it might be a pain if she got involved—

Not like that.

So she caught your eye as well?

…

Of course I do.

Hm? This is tasty…

We just exchanged a few words… but I could tell she's unusually smart.

There's something… pretty mysterious about that woman, you know?

Her breasts were big, too, and her face…

— Well …

It's not just her brains …

I mean, she's not my type, but she didn't seem too bad…

She probably has a nice personality, too, since she greeted us politely…

!!

MHM MHM

THMP

KLONK

You are, at the end of the day, still a six-year-old.

I'm for it, Episode.

AGAIN, WHY'RE YOU TAKING IT IN THAT DIREC-TION?!

CUT IT OUT ALREADY !!

Neither Dramaturgy nor I could ever be your father.

The girl with the glasses, though... She would teach you many important lessons about life.

Phalaris from the Order may have taught you how to fight, but she would never be able to act as a mother.

You're human, Episode.

Ugh... I never shoulda brought this up.

When it comes down to it, I'm a half-vampire, anyway...

So long as you hold yourself as a person,

you are a person ...

ARA-RAGII !!!

Hane-kawa...!!

Ha— ...

So her name's... Hane-kawa...

...

You're facing someone who turns into mist— so that means—

You can't give up yet!

Oh... I knew it.

Gotta love it.

So that's how these two are...

You piece of shit!

FWOOM

That'll scare you!

GSSHT

Ah!

—What.

THMP

FSST

What?

Aah !!

TWING

Hane-kawa!

YOU ID...!

SBLORCH

Ha—

Hi-
Up!
BWAP
Ne
!
KSSHT
SGRK

Ka

Ngh...

Waa-agh...!

SPLAAASH

SGRRK

THP

THMP

...

Ehe-
he.
...
Hane-
kawa!
Hane-
kawa!
Hane-
kawa!!
Wh...Who
cares
about my
phone?!
...You
forgot it,
right?
I came...
to give it
to you.
—Your
phone.
...!
Quiet
down,
Araragi.

She had to have known...how dangerous this was...!!

Get it together... You're dealing with mist... which means...

That's just an excuse, of course... Even I understand that.

She must have just been—plain worried about me.

Water, right?

Ara-ragi.

What's your long jump record, roughly?

SLUMP

Ha
—

Ha!

Ne!

Hane!

DRIBBLE

GHURP

My long jump?

on—

Hold...

...

Hanekawa—she just risked her life to tell me this—that advice from Hanekawa—

Hold on... For now—

For now, right now, just stay calm and think.

So long...

...as you hold yourself as a person, you are a person.

...

See?

...That's why I told you to cut it out, Guillotine Cutter...

If you are a person, you must possess the courage to become happy.

And in that case, you mustn't run.

This is just how it is...

Eh...

Where'd all that talk about this being a one-on-one fight go...?

GKKT

It's his fault for bringing Hanekawa here in the first place, isn't it?

...I'm just getting more and more pissed off.

FWOOF

Hey.

Move.

If you keep sitting there...

...that woman's body is only going to get more damaged, you know?

Eh?

JOLT

...!

Hane-
kawa
...!

Hane-
kawa...

SGRCHT

BAKEMONOGATARI

Hane-
kawa
...

ZSSHH...

HH...

BAKEMONOGATARI II

Tch.

Just so you know...

Do I really have to rearrange my strategy now...?

I can't believe he just regenerated his arms and legs in the blink of an eye after I worked so hard to take them.

This was supposed to be a one-on-one fight. You broke our promise first.

Normally, you would have lost already for that.

But you know, you're—

I'll call it even since I hit a civilian.

BOOM

Hey!

Hold on... Listen to me!!

WHOOSH

TCH!

If I have to fight Heart-Under-Blade's thrall in a head-on battle...

Oh no... I don't have any traps left.

BOOM

Huh?!

The hell is that? What're you aiming at?! Gotta love it!

In that case —

—All right!

He's so angry he can't even control his own power.

Hane-kawa...

...taught me.

ZSSHH

About this place.

She wanted to know *what my long jump record is, roughly.*

Hane-kawa— asked me.

...

this is where I should be.

In other words ...

The sandpit for long jumps —!!

ZAKK

BWOOSH

GWOOF

BHHOOSH

ZSSHH

?!

I should create some space between us for no—

I don't like how this feels ...

KLATTER

?!!!

I should have passed through— but I...

Wha...?

Can't?!

BLSHH

BWOOF

Did she... really ...?

That... woman ...!

...Ah ...!

Water, right?

Which means —

Mist ...

My mist— the sand he dumped on me is sticking to it!

My body— it's still...!!

THOOM

BOOM

KLONG

GRRK

GRRK

GRRK

...

...

Why are you pissed off here?

Hold on a damn second.

You get to call yourself human. You have the power of a pure-blooded vampire.

You're the one with every-thing, aren't you?

—You even have Hanekawa!!

KRAKK

BOOM

TIME TO BLOW YOU A...

... WAY ...

ZMMP

Who cares?

So you've lost something.

ZAKK
ZAKK
ZAKK
I...
Aah!
Aa-
ah-
hh
Gah
...
Ah
ZH
ZHLR
...never
even
had
anything
to
begin
with...
Waa-
ahh...
Keh.

Eep!

GMPH

I!

I!

I!

SKREEEEEEEEK

Keh heh.

SKRE

EEEE

EEK

kill you...!

I'll

SKRRRRL

ゴゴゴゴゴゴ

I have to kill him...

If anyone must die, it has to be this guy...!

KREAK

SNAP

ポキ

KRAK

ポキ

KRAK

ポキ

KRAK

ポキ

KRAK

PLOP

POP

KRAKL

PYAAAAAGH.

SIZZZZZZZZ

I think that's enough, Araragi.

FIZZZZZ

...?!

Oshino ...?!

Good work, Araragi.

10キーン

KRAK

AH

The fight's been ... ... decided.

BAKEMONOGATARI

The fight's been decided, Araragi.

Sand rained down.

And Oshino just stood there in it.

Haah!

KRAKL KRAKL

Haah!

Haah ...

KRAKL

FIZZZZ

You could've!

You could've stopped Hanekawa!!

O—!! Oshino.

It was the same with Dramaturgy—he said he'd been watching from somewhere.

He must have been doing so this time, too. But...in that case—!!

Don't yell like that. You're so spirited, Araragi.

Something good happen to you today?

TWITCH

Just look, he's out cold.

Huh?

Oh.

Well, sorry to dampen your spirits.

But it's over.

SHIVER

Was I— trying to kill this guy?

Wha?

...about to do ...?

Wh...?

What— was I...

...

—

Huh?

Come to think of it, I feel like someone was speaking to me.

From within an ashen mist— someone was...

Somewhere in my blurred memory— I recall my mind going blank.

And then I was observing myself— from somewhere, but not here.

ZHHK

ZHHK

ZHHK

ZHHK

Hane-
kawa!!

Hane-
kawa!!

HA-
HANE-
KAWA!!

RIGHT!

AH!

DASH

Yeah.

I saw.

O...

OSHINO...! HANE-KAWA, SHE...!

...

...!

Y...YOU JUST STOOD THERE AND WATCHED ?!

WHY DIDN'T YOU STOP HER?!

Wasn't part of the bill.

Anything beyond that requires a separate fee. I can't get mixed up with ordinary people.

I'm only on the hook to parley with three vampire hunters.

HA HA HA HA

はっはっはっはっ

Let's see...

How does two million yen or so sound?

Tuh—

Two million ?!

Oh.

Of course, this would be work for me— I don't do this for free.

Two million yen.

...

So is that the price — of a life?

Bal-ance.

A fee paid as com-pensa-tion.

お金 Money

バランス器 Scale

怪異 Aberration

How stout of you. ♡

Oh.

You would've paid another two million for Missy Class President's fee?

TWO MILLION?! I WOULD'VE PAID THREE!

IF YOU HAD—

THEN TELL ME THAT FROM THE BEGIN-NING!

GCCHT

BOO

You're joking around... at a time like this, Oshino...?! What's your deal...?!

O—

...!

KRAK

—I'll give you a hint, then.

So we have a deal. Three million yen.

The one you just proposed, Araragi.

Try using your head, Araragi.

What's that immortal body of yours for?

Oh.

...Use my—

...head...

GSSHT

A feature of being a vampire ...!!

That's right! Remember!

KRAK

KRAK

KRAK

Prrt.

SPLATCH

SPLATCH

SNAP

SNAP

SNAP

GRIND

GRIND

SPLAP SPLAP

If no oxygen reaches the brain for five minutes,

it stops functioning.

SPLAP

SST

Five minutes.

—It'll do.

Not even three minutes have passed...!

...

FWOOSH

...

Ha...

Hane-
kawa
...?

HANE-KAWA!

PLEASE!

HANE-KAWA!

HANE-KAWA!

GRASP

JIGGLE

Not a thing—

And I haven't given her a thing back yet.

Just how much have I received from Hanekawa?

G

FUTURE

WA-
AGH
!!

HANE-
KAWA!

PLEASE!

HANE-
GA

Quiet
down,
Araragi.

...

...What exactly are you doing?

Aaahh ...

BAM
バミッ!
?!
...
My...uniform appears to be torn. Should I chalk this up to you, too?
They say people don't always remember the moments before they lose consciousness.
My bad... Hane-kawa.

Stay still for a bit more.

Continued in Volume 12

Next Volume Preview
Koyomi has defeated Dramaturgy and Episode.
BAKEMONOGATARI ⑫
His remaining opponent is a "plain human."
Cutter
Guillotine Cutter.
And with the decisive battle awaiting...
Listen to me.
You should stop coming here.
Hane-kawa.
...Koyomi informs Tsubasa of his cruel thoughts—
Koyomi Vamp bewilders.
COMING WINTER 2021!

BAKEMONOGATARI (manga), volume 11

Kodansha Digital Edition

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